CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following is a complete listing of all claims presented in the present application, including the text of all pending claims and withdrawn claims:

Claims 1-29 (Cancelled)

30. (New)   A method of providing a product to a buyer who purchased the product through a purchasing system, comprising:

receiving from the buyer redemption information;

receiving from the purchasing system verification information enabling the authorization of the buyer to take possession of the product;

providing the product to the buyer; and

receiving from a party different from the buyer a payment in exchange for providing the product to the buyer,

wherein the payment is based on a first price of the product agreed upon between a retailer and the party different from the buyer and not on a second price of the product that the buyer agreed to pay to the party different from the buyer.

31. (New)   The method of claim 30, further comprising:

sending to the purchasing system information related to an attempt to take possession of the product, including the redemption information.

32. (New)   The method of claim 30, wherein the redemption information comprises a condition that must be met by the buyer.

33. (New)   The method of claim 30, wherein the redemption information comprises penalty information.

34. (New)   The method of claim 30, wherein the redemption information comprises information associated with a plurality of retailers.

35. (New)   The method of claim 34, wherein the redemption information comprises a plurality of identifiers for the product, each identifier being associated with a different retailer.

36. (New)   The method of claim 30, wherein the redemption information comprises supplemental offer information.

37. (New)   The method of claim 30, further comprising:

providing a supplemental product to the buyer in accordance with the supplemental offer information.

38. (New)   The method of claim 30, further comprising:

sending to the purchasing system information related to an attempt to take possession of the product, wherein the verification information received from the purchasing system is received in response to said sending.

39. (New)   The method of claim 30, wherein the payment is an amount based on a settlement price.

40. (New)   The method of claim 30, wherein the redemption information is associated with a first price, further comprising:

determining an adjustment to the first price.

41. (New)   The method of claim 40, wherein the adjustment is based on the difference between the first price and a retail price at which a retailer offers the product for sale.

42. (New)   The method of claim 40, wherein the adjustment is based on at least one of: (i) a sales tax amount; (ii) a penalty amount; and (iii) a coupon amount.

43. (New)   The method of claim 40, further comprising:

> providing an adjustment amount to the buyer based on said adjustment.

44. (New)   The method of claim 40, further comprising, wherein the adjustment amount is provided to the buyer: (i) using a payment identifier associated with the buyer; or (ii) using currency.

45. (New)   The method of claim 40, further comprising:
> receiving an adjustment amount from the buyer based on said adjustment.

46. (New)   A retailer device, comprising:
> a processor; and

> a storage device coupled to said processor and storing instructions adapted to be executed by said processor to:

>> receive from the buyer redemption information;

>> receive from the purchasing system verification information enabling the authorization of the buyer to take possession of the product;

>> provide the product to the buyer; and

>> receive from a party different from the buyer a payment in exchange for providing the product to the buyer,

wherein the payment is based on a first price of the product agreed upon between a retailer and the party different from the buyer and not on a second price of the product that the buyer agreed to pay to the party different from the buyer.

47. (New)   A retailer system apparatus, comprising:

   means for receiving from the buyer redemption information;

   means for receiving from the purchasing system verification information enabling the authorization of the buyer to take possession of the product;

   means for providing the product to the buyer; and

   means for receiving from a party different from the buyer a payment in exchange for providing the product to the buyer,

      wherein the payment is based on a first price of the product agreed upon between a retailer and the party different from the buyer and not on a second price of the product that the buyer agreed to pay to the party different from the buyer.

48. (New)   The method of claim 47, wherein said arranging for the buyer to purchase the product comprises:

   receiving a buyer offer, including a buyer-defined first price and information about the product, from the buyer; and

   determining if the buyer offer will be accepted.

49. (New)   method of claim 48, wherein said determining comprises at least one of: (i) sending information about the buyer offer to at least one seller; and (ii) locally determining if the buyer offer will be accepted.

50. (New)   The method of claim 47, wherein said arranging for the buyer to purchase the product comprises receiving payment from the buyer of an amount based on the first price.

51. (New)   The method of claim 50, wherein the payment is received at a time based on one of: (i) when the purchasing system arranges for the buyer to purchase the product; and (ii) when the buyer takes possession of the product at the retailer.

52. (New)   The method of claim 47, wherein said arranging for the buyer to purchase the product comprises receiving a payment identifier from the buyer.

53. (New)   The method of claim 52, wherein said arranging for the buyer to purchase the product comprises one of: (i) charging an amount based on the first price using the payment identifier; and (ii) reserving an amount based on the first price using the payment identifier.

54. (New)   The method of claim 47, wherein the redemption information comprises penalty information.

55. (New)   The method of claim 54, wherein the penalty information comprises information related to at least one of: (i) a flat fee to be paid by the buyer for failing to meet a condition; (ii) a percentage fee to be paid by the buyer for failing to meet a condition; (iii) a cost associated with delivering the product to be paid by the buyer for failing to meet a condition; and (iv) voiding a right of the buyer to take possession of the product.

56. (New)   The method of claim 47, further comprising:
        sending to a second retailer supplemental verification information enabling the second retailer to authorize the buyer to take possession of a supplemental product.

57. (New)   The method of claim 56, wherein the supplemental verification
information is only sent when the buyer has taken possession of the product at the
retailer.

58. (New)   The method of claim 47, further comprising:
        receiving from the retailer information related to an attempt to take possession of
the product; and
        sending to the retailer a verification authorizing the buyer to take possession of
the product.

59. (New)   The method of claim 58, wherein the pseudo payment identifier is
provided on a voucher, and the retailer sends the voucher to the purchasing system as a
record of charge.

60. (New)   The method of claim 57, wherein said arranging for the buyer to take
possession of the product at the retailer further comprises adjusting a spending limit
associated with the pseudo payment identifier.

61. (New)   method of claim 60, wherein said adjusting the spending limit comprises
establishing a minimum spending amount and a maximum spending amount.

62. (New)   The method of claim 60, wherein said adjusting is based on at least one of:
the first price; the second price; a settlement price to be provided to the retailer in
exchange for providing the product to the buyer; a penalty amount; and a tax amount.

63. (New)   The method of claim 47, wherein said arranging for the buyer to purchase
the product comprises receiving payment from the buyer of an amount based on the first
price adjusted with a subsequent amount.

64. (New)   The method of claim 62, wherein the subsequent amount comprises a penalty amount.

65. (New)   The method of claim 64, wherein the penalty amount is imposed when the buyer has not taken possession of the product from the retailer within a predetermined period of time.

66. (New)   The method of claim 65, wherein the penalty amount is associated with a cost to ship the product to the buyer.

67. (New)   A method of operating a purchasing system, comprising:

arranging through a communication network for a buyer to purchase a product from a seller at a first price;

selecting a retailer from a plurality of retailers, the retailer offering the product for sale at a second price;

sending to the buyer redemption information, including a redemption code;

receiving information related to an attempt to take possession of the product;

sending a verification authorizing the buyer to take possession of the product;

receiving from the buyer payment of an amount based on the first price; and

providing to the retailer an amount based on a third price for the product,

wherein the third price is based on an agreement between an operator of the purchasing system and the retailer and not on the first price that the buyer agreed to pay for the product.

68. (New)   The method of claim 67, further comprising:

reserving, using a payment identifier associated with the buyer, an amount based on the first price.

69. (New)   A method of operating a purchasing system, comprising:

receiving through a communication network a buyer offer, including a buyer-defined first price, information about a product and a buyer payment identifier, from a buyer;

determining if the buyer offer will be accepted by a seller;

selecting at least one retailer from a plurality of retailers;

adjusting a spending limit associated with a pseudo payment identifier;

sending redemption information, including the pseudo payment identifier and information enabling the creation of a voucher, to the buyer;

receiving the pseudo payment identifier from a credit card processing system;

sending a verification authorizing the buyer to take possession of the product;

re-adjusting the spending limit associated with the pseudo payment identifier;

receiving payment of an amount based on the first price using the buyer payment identifier; and

providing to a retailer at which the buyer took possession of the product a second price,

wherein the second price is a price previously agreed upon between an operator of the purchasing system and at least on of the retailer and the seller and is not based on the first price defined by the buyer.

70. (New)   A purchasing system device, comprising:

a processor; and

a storage device coupled to said processor and storing instructions adapted to be executed by said processor to:

arrange through a communication network for a buyer to purchase a product from a seller,

wherein the buyer agrees to pay a first price for the product,

send redemption information to the buyer, the redemption information enabling the buyer to take possession of the product at a retailer that offers the product for sale at a second price; and

provide to the retailer a third price for the product once the buyer takes possession of the product at the retailer,

wherein the third price is a price for the product agreed upon between the retailer and the seller and is not based on the first price that the buyer agreed to pay for the product.